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CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

SHARTSIS FRIESE LLP
JAMES P. MARTIN (Bar #170044)
GREGG S. FARANO (Bar #221505)
One Maritime Plaza, 18th Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3598
Telephone: (415) 421-6500
Facsimile: (415) 421-2922

E-filing

Attorneys for Plaintiff
ARTIS CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, LLC

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

PVT

ARTIS CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, LLC, a
California limited liability company,

Plaintiff,

v.

ARTISAN PARTNERS LIMITED
PARTNERSHIP, a Delaware limited partnership,

Defendant.

C 06 1663

No.

COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY
JUDGMENT

REQUEST FOR JURY TRIAL

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ONE MARITIME PLAZA
EIGHTEENTH FLOOR
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94111-3598

Plaintiff Artis Capital Management, LLC ("Artis" or "Plaintiff"), by its attorneys, for its
Complaint against Defendant, alleges as follows:

I. THE PARTIES

1. Artis Capital Management, LLC is a California limited liability company with its
principal place of business in San Francisco, California.

2. On information and belief, Defendant Artisan Partners Limited Partnership is a
Delaware limited partnership with its principal place of business in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

II. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

3. Plaintiff brings this action seeking a declaration of rights with respect to federal
trademark laws. This Court has jurisdiction over this action under 28 U.S.C. § 1331 and § 1338

1 (federal question), 15 U.S.C. § 1114(1) (federal trademarks); and 28 U.S.C. §§ 2201-02
2 (Declaratory Judgment Act).

3 4. Venue is proper in this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(2). The alleged acts
4 of infringement have occurred in the Northern District of California, where Plaintiff's business is
5 located and where most of its clients have met with Plaintiff prior to engaging Plaintiff to perform
6 any services.

7 III. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

8 5. Plaintiff is an investment advisory firm that manages private hedge funds that invest
9 primarily in the technology sector. The securities of the hedge funds that Plaintiff manages are
10 distributed only through private offerings. Plaintiff does not engage in any mass mailing, general
11 solicitation or general advertising in connection with such private offerings.

12 6. Plaintiff has continuously used the name "Artis Capital Management, LLC" in
13 connection with its investment advisory and hedge fund services since at least as early as January
14 2002. Plaintiff has also used the term "Artis" as part of the name of the hedge funds it manages
15 since as early as 2002.

16 7. On information and belief, Defendant is an investment adviser that manages public
17 mutual funds and separate accounts. On information and belief, Defendant does not manage
18 private hedge funds.

19 8. Through written correspondence from its counsel, Defendant has alleged that
20 Plaintiff has infringed its federal service mark rights. Defendant's attorneys, Bell, Boyd & Lloyd,
21 LLC, represented that Defendant is the owner of a service mark for ARTISAN, U.S. Reg.
22 No. 2,003,659. In a letter from its attorneys dated February 21, 2006, Defendant alleged that
23 Plaintiff has infringed the ARTISAN mark through its use of "Artis" and/or "Artis Capital
24 Management, LLC." Defendant also demanded that Plaintiff contact Defendant within five (5)
25 days from receipt of the letter to inform Defendant whether Plaintiff would agree to cease and
26 desist from any further use of the name. Plaintiff has not infringed upon any of Defendant's
27 rights, and Plaintiff intends to continue using its name and service mark as it has done for more
28 than four (4) years. Because the Defendant has threatened legal action, Plaintiff seeks a declaration

1 that its use of "Artis" and "Artis Capital Management, LLC" is entirely lawful and does not
2 infringe upon any of the Defendant's service mark rights.

3 IV. CLAIM FOR RELIEF

4 (Declaratory Judgment of Non-Infringement of Service Mark)

5 9. Plaintiff repeats and realleges as if fully set forth, the allegations contained in
6 Paragraphs 1 through 8. Defendant has accused Plaintiff of violating its service mark rights
7 through use of the term "Artis" and the name "Artis Capital Management, LLC" in connection with
8 Plaintiff's business.

9 10. Plaintiff categorically denies that its use of "Artis" or "Artis Capital Management,
10 LLC" violates any federal or state rights Defendant might have in its ARTISAN service mark.
11 Plaintiff specifically denies that its use of "Artis" or "Artis Capital Management, LLC" has caused
12 or is likely to cause any confusion among consumers with Defendant's asserted ARTISAN service
13 mark registration or any other mark allegedly owned by Defendant.

14 11. Defendant's asserted service mark is a weak mark in a crowded field, as many
15 others use "ARTISAN," "ARTIS" or variations thereof as part of a service mark for investment,
16 financial or related services.

17 12. On information and belief, no actual confusion has occurred during the substantial
18 period of time (more than four years) since both Plaintiff and Defendant have been using their
19 names in connection with their respective services.

20 13. Plaintiff has not infringed upon any of the Defendant's marks within the meaning of
21 15 U.S.C. § 1114(1) or any other federal or state trademark laws. Plaintiff's use of "Artis" or
22 "Artis Capital Management, LLC" in connection with its services is not likely to cause confusion,
23 to cause mistake, or to deceive the public.

24 14. Defendant's assertion that Plaintiff is violating its legal rights irreparably injures
25 Plaintiff and adversely affects, and unless prevented by this Court will continue to so affect,
26 Plaintiff's business and the investment it has made in its name and in the attendant good will. To
27 resolve the legal and factual questions raised by Defendant and to afford relief from the uncertainty
28 and controversy which Defendant's assertion has precipitated, Plaintiff is entitled to a declaratory

judgment of its rights under 28 U.S.C. §§ 2201-02. The use by Plaintiff of "Artis" or "Artis Capital Management, LLC" in connection with its services does not violate any trademark laws.

V. PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment against Defendant as follows:

1. For a declaratory judgment that Plaintiff has not infringed any valid registered or common law service mark owned by Defendant.

2. For a declaratory judgment that Plaintiff has not violated any rights of Defendant under the trademark laws of the United States or the State of California.

3. For a declaratory judgment that Plaintiff's use of the name "Artis" or "Artis Capital Management, LLC" in connection with its business is not confusingly similar to or likely to cause consumer confusion with respect to Defendant's service mark ARTISAN as used in its business.

4. For an order enjoining and restraining Defendant, its officers, directors, agents, attorneys and those in privity with it or them, from further:

(a) Interfering with, or threatening to interfere with, use of the "Artis" or "Artis Capital Management, LLC" name by Plaintiff, its funds, related entities, successors or assigns, in connection with its or their business; or

(b) Charging Plaintiff with infringement of any registered or common law service mark owned by Defendant.

5. For an award of reasonable attorneys' fees and costs.

6. For such other or further relief as this Court may deem just and proper.

DATED: March 2, 2006

SHARTSIS FRIESE LLP

By


JAMES P. MARTIN

Attorneys for Plaintiff
ARTIS CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, LLC

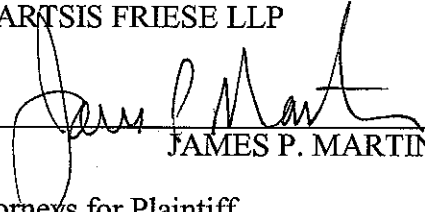
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1 Plaintiff hereby requests a jury trial for all issues triable by jury, including, but not limited
2 to, those issues and claims set forth in any amended complaint or consolidated action.

3 DATED: March 2, 2006

SHARTSIS FRIESE LLP

4
5 By


JAMES P. MARTIN

6 Attorneys for Plaintiff
7 ARTIS CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, LLC

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